

CDA EcoRA Work Group Teleconference February 1, 2001; 9:00 - 9:30 AM

Randy Connolly, Spokane Tribe
Bill Beckley, Ridolfi
Harry Ohlendorf, CH2M Hill
John Roland, Ecology
Steve Hughes, URS
Brad Frazier, USFWS
Dan Audet, USFWS
Anne Dailey, EPA

EcoRA Schedule - Given Don Heinle's passing, the EcoRA schedule will slip. Tentative revised schedule is as follows:

- Mid-late Feb. - Draft responses to comments distributed to commenters and trustee/regulatory parties for a courtesy review, review period will be 2 weeks
- Mid-late May - EcoRA revised

The EcoRA schedule continues to be non-time critical so the schedule can accommodate the above slippage without impacting the overall schedule.

Spokane River Evaluation - Lisa Saban, CH2M Hill will be picking up the Spokane River evaluation from Don Heinle. Lisa is just back from vacation and is getting up to speed on the project. The Spokane River evaluation will be discussed at greater length when Lisa is up to speed and ready to discuss the issues with John Roland and others.

Draft EcoRA Tech Memo 1 - Hard copies of Draft EcoRA Tech Memo 1 (Evaluation of Secondary Effects of Mining-related Hazardous Substances on Physical and Biological Ecosystem Characteristics) was mailed for review to the EcoRA mailing list late last week. This Tech Memo addresses the physical and biological effects of the mining-related hazardous substances. Comments on this will be due to EPA no later than February 16, 2001. The revised tech memo will be included in the Final EcoRA.

Background concentrations -

- In response to comments received on the DEcoRA and raised during the September EcoRA workshop, EPA is revisiting the background concentrations established for the basin.

Lake CDA -

- Bert Shephard, URS, is pulling together information regarding the benthic community

in Lake CDA. The outcome of this will be pulled into the EcoRA revisions, RI, and FS.

Waterfowl studies along the Spokane River -

- Ecology and USFWS are tentatively planning to collect waterfowl feces along several high waterfowl use areas along the Spokane River and will be doing lead content evaluations of the material. A sampling plan, etc. will be put together for this effort.

Update on the Soil/Sediment Amendment Study -

- Things are moving along with respect to the soil/sediment amendment study.
- USFWS, IDEQ, EPA + contractors will be going to the proposed field sites in early February to identify the exact field plot locations, measure soil lead concentrations via XRF, measure soil pH, test soil pH adjustments and conduct other tests in preparation of initiation of the soil amendment study.
- IDEQ is moving forward to identify a contractor to conduct the soil amendment applications at the field sites.
- USFWS is conducting the necessary preparation for collection and shipping of the soil samples back to the Patuxent Laboratory in Maryland.
- The soil amendment study plan (+ DQO supporting information) will be available soon and transmitted electronically to parties on the soil amendment group.

Next Teleconference -

- The next EcoRA will be February 15, 2001 at 9 AM PST.
- The call-in number is 206-553-4557 (no pass code).